

[11th December 1923]

Water-supply to the Coimbatore town.

18 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what stage has been reached by the scheme for giving a water-supply to Coimbatore town; and

(b) whether the matter has been considered by the Government after the hon. the Minister in charge of the Local Self-Government Department visited Coimbatore and gave some hope at a public meeting of the scheme being given effect to very soon; and, if so, whether any decision has been arrived at; and if no decision has been yet arrived at, whether there is any chance of such a decision being arrived at in the near future?

A.—A scheme for the supply of water to Coimbatore from the Siruvani river was submitted by the Sanitary Engineer in December 1919. According to the latest estimates, the scheme is likely to cost Rs. 44.2 lakhs, including centage charges at 30 per cent of the cost of the works. The Government usually pay half the cost of major water-supply schemes and lend the other half to the Council concerned. In this case, the Council has therefore to borrow Rs. 22.1 lakhs, but it is not prepared to levy the water-tax at more than $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the rental value of property, which will enable it to borrow only about Rs. 14 lakhs. The question of reducing the centage charges for the execution of water-supply schemes is now under the consideration of the Government and as soon as a decision is arrived at, the Government will pass final orders on the Coimbatore scheme. In the list of schemes approved by the Government for execution, Coimbatore occupies the first place in the order of priority.

Mr. R. VEERIAN:—“Will the hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to inform me of the approximate sum spent for experimental purposes in connexion with the introduction of water-supply for Coimbatore town from Siruvani up to this date?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL:—“I have no information, Sir.”

Water-supply of Coonoor.

19 Q.—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the question of improving the water-supply of Coonoor is at present;

(b) whether the Municipality of Coonoor has submitted plans and estimates regarding this matter;

(c) if an application has been made for financial help and whether the Government have any intention of rendering any such help; and

(d) if so, when and to what extent?

A.—(a) & (b) The Sanitary Engineer prepared in August last a scheme of improvements known as the ‘Karadipallam Scheme’ which has been accepted by the Council. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, has however, after an inspection of the